

# Exceptional Academic Achievement at Riverside

## Determination and hard work deliver outstanding HSC results

### Top ATAR



Sophie McPherson's outstanding ATAR of 99.5 placed her in the Premiers All Rounders list for students who achieved 90+ in all 10 units of their Higher School Certificate. She ranked 14th in the state in Biology (with a cohort of 18,425 students) and is carrying this interest in the sciences onto her post school course in Physiotherapy.

She dedicated herself to hard work in years 11 and 12, aiming for an ATAR of above 90.

"Riverside was such an amazing school, brimming with caring, compassionate and skilled teachers. The sense of community I felt during my time at Riverside was unparalleled and the diverse friendships I made I will cherish going into adulthood." (Sophie (right) with Neilab Osman)

### DUX

Aileen Hou devoted herself to her studies during her time at Riverside.

Her consistent performance led to her achieving the position of Dux of Year 12, presented at Graduation, September 2017.

She has been chosen by Sydney University to undertake a Commerce degree through the Dalyell Scholars program. This is an entry by invitation program which "will challenge talented students to excel by drawing on the University's rich interdisciplinary depth and breadth through academic, leadership and mentoring opportunities."

Students who attain an ATAR of 98+ have the opportunity to apply. The Program develops global perspectives and cross cultural competencies through access to international experiences.



### High Distinction Medal

Neilab Osman placed 5th in the state for Society & Culture and received a High Distinction for this at the Society and Culture Association recognition of achievement ceremony. Her Personal Interest Project, worth 40%, was entitled "The Other Speaks" - an investigation of the way in which the "other" is treated in society. She was awarded full marks for the P.I.P. an acknowledgement of the depth and sophistication of her research and particularly the theoretical research materials of university level difficulty she examined. She interviewed a group of young and older Afghan Australians as a cross cultural study and was congratulated by the HSC markers on the way in which she made the difficult material come to life. She will be studying a double degree Psychology / Law at Macquarie University having received the University 5 year Merit Scholarship.

### State Placing

Kate Masters was a committed and consistent student who placed 6th in a course of just under 8000 candidates in Hospitality. This well deserved result reflected an excellent understanding of kitchen operations and the industry in general through her work placements at The Westin and The Star Casino.



### Art Express

Nia Pandoulis' major work is selected to be hung at The Armory as part of Art Express. Her work was inspired by the concept of Time, Decay and Beauty as well as the now derelict White Bay Power Station. She found inspiration in the remnants of the buildings and tried to show that they are enhanced through time. (2 of the 4 works pictured left.)

She achieved a Band 6 in Visual Arts.



## Young Women Following Their Passions

Jayda Carter will draw on the principles of portraiture she acquired in visual arts for the HSC to set up her own business. Jayda developed a psychedelic colour technique to represent her portraits. She hopes that her business, "Rosichecks" will find an enthusiastic market.

Jayda is a young entrepreneur.



Beeta Tira achieved an ATAR of 95.05 .

Will study a Bachelor of Physiotherapy at University of Western Sydney



Talented twins, Jessica (right) and Olivia Ellis will pursue their passion for music. Jessica has chosen to attend the Conservatorium of Music to complete a Bachelor of Music with a focus on composition through creative music and then exchange to UCLA in her 3rd year to undertake study in film music. The avenues from this study would include film, television, advertising and games. She was recently successful in being selected as a member of the Flagship Sydney Youth Orchestra, one of 5 ensembles of the Sydney Youth Orchestra.

Olivia, also a very talented and versatile musician has chosen to take a GAP year before possibly also studying at the Conservatorium. She is currently working at 3 local primary schools teaching beginner strings, has been accepted by the Sydney Youth Orchestra, Philharmonic and is currently undertaking a Diploma of Events Management.

"Working collaboratively as a team following the saying "if we do well then I do well.," the biology class of 2017 knew this to be true with 26% achieving Band 6 and 26% achieving Band 5. Emily Dowling's (band 6) enquiring mind; Jessica Brown's (Band 6) quiet confidence; Jessica Boyd-Weetman (Band 6) and Beeta Tira (Band 6) working collaboratively; Sophie McPherson (Band 6), the quiet achiever, bouncing ideas off Siena Hoban (Band 6), Kate Masters (Band 6) and Chloe Davis (Band 6); and Vivian King (Band 6), the homework queen, produced a culture of sharing and a positive dynamic which led to outstanding group and individual results". Ms. Nikic, teacher.

Brooke Threlfo has achieved a long held ambition to study criminal justice. In her recent speech at the High Achievers Assembly Brooke said, " To me high achievers are different in all walks of life and you will find they aren't on the same level but then again you don't have to be. What defines an individual to be a high achiever is unique to each and everyone of you."



## The diversity of the paths our students have chosen

Sophie McPherson	Bachelor of Physiotherapy	University of Sydney
Tatiana Roccosta	Career in Art	National Art School
Sandra Buchert	Bachelor of Speech / Hearing	Macquarie University
Aileen Hou	Bachelor of Commerce / Advanced Studies	University of Sydney
Talia Shepherd	Bachelor of Law and Social Science	Macquarie University
Billie-May Duckworth	Bachelor of Media Communication	Macquarie University
Holly Threlfo	Bachelor of Medical Science (Physiotherapy)	Charles Sturt University
Brooke Threlfo	Bachelor of Criminal Justice	Charles Sturt University
Olivia Ellis	Diploma of Events Management , Associate of Music	Conservatorium of Music
Jessica Ellis	Bachelor of Creative Music	Conservatorium of Music
Chloe Davis	Bachelor of Sports Management	University of Technology
Emily Dowling	Bachelor of Science / Law	University of Sydney
Maddie Armstrong	Bachelor of Medical Science	University of Technology
Kate Masters	Bachelor of Clinical Science	Macquarie University
Matilda Simmons	Bachelor of Acting Scholarship	Griffith University
Jessica Brown	Bachelor of Biomedical Science	University of Queensland
Jenna Parker	Bachelor of Multimedia / Communication Media	University of Technology
Sally Evans	Bachelor of Medical Science (Vet)	University of Sydney ( early entry)
Taylor Angelo	Bachelor of Arts & Advanced Studies	University of Sydney
Tina Sun	Bachelor of Science and Business	University of NSW
Neilab Osman	Bachelor of Psychology / Law	Macquarie University
Beeta Tira	Bachelor of Physiotherapy	University of Western Sydney
Bianca Laycock	Bachelor of Science / Computer Science	University of Sydney
Vivian King	Bachelor of Communications, Digital & Social Media	Monash University, Melbourne
Rena Barber	Bachelor of Communications	University of Technology
Jasmin Myers	Global Leadership Program - releasing own CD's	London
Bianca Laycock	Research Asst. UQ. Bachelor of Design / Computing	University of Sydney
Josephine Tran	Bachelor of International Studies & Business	University of Western Sydney